Victorian Christmas

IN HISTORIC DEPOT TOWN

Depot Town Rag

FREE 100% RAG CONTENT

DECEMBER MEETINGS
Merchants - 7:30 Dec. 8
Association - 7:30 Dec. 15
Foundation - 8:00 Dec. 22
...all in the Caboose

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Foundation Proposes 2nd D.D.A. for City

City Council members have been meeting with the Historic Depot Town Foundation to discuss the possibility of forming a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) around the Depot Town district, much as downtown Ypsilanti did several years ago.

A second DDA is allowable by statute and would act as a quasigovernmental agency dedicated to development of the neighborhood by capturing the taxes on new improvements only, and directing them toward public improvements within the district. In other communities, the creation of a DDA has promoted investment, improvement and preservation by the infusion of more people and more dollars to the districts. Proponents point out the creation of new jobs and new development opportunities in these districts.

Since the monitoring of such an authority is done by the mayor and an appointed Board of Directors, interested parties should write letters of intent to Mayor Murdock before December 15. Meanwhile, City Council will post notice of two public hearings to create such a district, determine its boundaries, and promote new opportunities and jobs within the district.

Jerry Meadows, an active member of the Foundation and a principal of the FOLLETT HOUSE, says, "A Depot Town DDA would involve more people in the local government, and help people to improve their own community. It would have a stabilizing effect and improve the tax base, as well as help to raise property values. Such a plan can preserve American values and create new jobs."

Foundation members recently listed 3, 6 and 10 year plans for development should such an Authority be established and have already suggested such public improvements with these newly-directed tax dollars as:

- new, lower closer together Victorian street lighting.
- additional tree planting
- improved parking facilities
- Frog Island development
- Riverside Park's Phase II
- Signal Tower Replication at the railroad intersection
- Signage to help out-of-towners find Downtown, Depot Town and EMU

Watch the dailies for Council announcement of the Public Hearing on forming a (Depot Town) Downtown Development Authority. Attend subsequent Foundation meetings and collect facts about this new proposal to help you decide whether we should further bureaucratize for neighborhood improvement.

DECEMBER 18TH
LAST SHOPPING WEEK-END BEFORE CHRISTMAS

ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY ATTRACTIONS

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 3RD
8 P.M. IN THE FREIGHT HOUSE
JAZZ CONCERT

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 4TH
ALL DAY IN THE FREIGHT HOUSE
HOLIDAY ARTISTS' MARKET

DECEMBER 11TH
11 A.M. – 8 P.M. FREIGHT HOUSE
ANTIQUES AUCTION

KIDS' SHOPPING DAY
DEPOT TOWN SHOPS
11 A.M TO 4 P.M.

DEPOT TOWN SHOPS
OPEN FRIDAYS 'til 8PM
RIGHT UP UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

VICTORIAN HOLIDAY: An Old Time Celebration

Depot Town merchants began their holiday observance in traditional first-Sunday-after-Thanksgiving fashion: many shops held open houses for their regular customers and more than one Cratchitt family was seen traversing this old shopping district in costumes which seemed to be left over from the wardrobe department from the filming of "Oliver!" Even though Charles Dickens claimed not to enjoy our country too much, he certainly would have fit right in with the November 27th Victorian theme which will continue until Christmas.

Santa arrived at the Caboose and then settled into Downtown's "Country Christmas" headquarters for the rest of the season. He looks as lively and cheerful as ever, and wished the best possible for all his friends in good, old Ypsilanti.

The Salvation Army was on hand, as well, to kick off their annual campaign to help those in need during this lovely season. Their uniformed bell-ringers and many volunteers added much to the occasion. Keep a check in your pocket and watch for them again. The Army's program is deserving of our support.

Depot Town merchants have again decided to stay open Friday nights until 8:00 pm until Christmas...so that all might discover how beautiful this old block can be after dark in the winter.

"So Where Are We Headed?" Says the Back Seat Driver.

Sometimes riding in the back isn't as fun as its cracked up to be.

Here I sit watching Depot Town moving from the back seat no knowing whether our vehicle is moving forward or backwards; more times than not I think it's moving backwards.

It seems like every time we move a little forward all our wonderful Depot Town people start standing up, blowing trumpets about how they did so much to move us forward, but what they don't realize is when all this hoopla starts hitting Cross Street it puts up back a country mile, we have to learn that every time something great happens we all can't stand up and cheer, "How great am I". It should be how great we are, as a small diversified community within a community, we should work together for a common goal. It's my view that all these new Associations, Foundations and groups are all counter-productive. We should all get together and talk about each other's goals and find out what's happening in each block of our town and find something we can all agree to work for.

It seems to me, we are spreading our resources too thin, too few people are doing too many things, we need to get new people involved with our community.

Case in point: take the last DTA elections, No, take the last DMC (merchants committee) elections. There was only one candidate per contest, and of course it was the same old people taking all the honors. How can we expect to get new blood into the area when the same peole are drowning us out, not to mention the musical chair system of our leaders. Sooner or later you're going to get some bad leaders who would not be elected if more people would have gotten involved. There are over 400 Depot Town regular people, (including residents, owners, and employees. You would think out of all these people, most of whom are very proud to exclaim they are part of our town, they would participate more in our affairs. So let's get it together. Let's stick together. Let us adopt a mew motto: NEW, BUT OLD, JUST LIKE US. All for one and one for all. And watch us move forward.

Tom Kornilakis

Freight House Sparkles

Market Manager, Gary Urich, certainly has made his mark on the operation of that City facility. Not only has there been a successful new effort at promotional events other than the regular Wednesday/Saturday Farmers' Market, but the interior decor for the Holiday is delightful. Gary prowled through the City's old decoration and brought those lanterns and/sconces which would best complement the interior of that 100 year old barn. It's a nice treatment and adds a seasonal sparkle to the old place.

Phantom Goes To Cleveland

Jim Weston's PHANTOM OF THE ATTIC has expanded from Depot Town to a second location in Pittsburg, Pa. Jim is still settling in there and has left Tony Brown here to manage the Depot Town branch. The new traffic flow and window display are most welcome.

GRANDMA AT HON'S

The new interior effect at HON'S FLOWERS AND FANCIES must have come right out of a trunk in Grandma's attic. Victorian wallpaper colors are repeated in the trim and accent colors for a cozy, old fashioned effect. Some new/old oak cases have been added and appear right at home in the Masonic Block.

New In The Neighborhood

NORTH RIVER ANTIQUES, at the north end of the Thompson Block, adds to our always growing and expanding series of quality collectibles. Owner, David Carruthers, is an old Depot Towner, formerly associated with almost every antique dealer in the area, including MATERIALS UNLIMITED, most recently.

THE HEALTH EMPORIUM
"To your good health"
FOR YOUR NUTRITIONAL NEEDS
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DEPOT TOWN YPSILANTI

and everything nice
RECYCLED CHILDREN'S CLOTHING
27 E. CROSS
DEPOT TOWN
YPSILANTI
10-6 Mon.-Fri.
9-5 Sat.
HANDCRAFTED TOYS and GIFTS
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PHANTOM OF THE ATTIC
COMIC BOOKS • BASEBALL CARDS • SUPPLIES
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YPSILANTI, MI 48197

Learn a NEW HOBBY
J & J Plastercraft Studio
in Depot Town
Sundays 1-3 pm - Young people paint
$2.00 everything included
Classes 7 pm-9 pm Tues. & Thurs.
Open Tues.-Sun. (closed Monday)
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No Firing Necessary

DEPOT EXCHANGE
ANTIQUES
54 E. Cross St. (near tracks)
Depot Town
Ypsilanti, Mich 48197
WE BUY, SELL & TRADE
482-1780

Olde Towne Coin & Gold
We Buy Silver and Gold
18 E CROSS STREET
YPSILANTI, MI 48197
(313) 483-6155

Another Meeting to Attend?

All those meeting times posted at the top right hand corner of the RAG'S front page may be intimidating to some, but the exact opposite was intended, actually. A few years ago, the Depot Town Association meetings started lasting longer than their usual monthly hour and a half and the membership decided to divide the activities into a more effective format. About a year later another off-shoot formed and, it too, became another function under the umbrella of the Association. A few, of course, just don't trust anyone - and attend all three; the Association, the Merchants' Committee and the Foundation. That's just fine will all three groups, and, if you have the energy and good will to spread around, all three programs can use the assistance. Most folks, however, have found their efforts most effective by putting their energies behind one of the groups which work toward the betterment of the block. If you have been confused by all the "alphabet soup" or burned-out due to spreading yourself too thin among these organizations, then the following explanation may be helpful:

THE DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION is the parent group of the block. Their articles of incorporation with the State of Michigan and tax exempt status with the federal Internal Revenue Service help form the umbrella which includes the Merchants and the Foundation. They also hold an enormous liability policy which covers many neighborhood events including the Ypsilanti Players, the Holiday Art Exhibit and other such events. Their major project right now in conjunction with WEMU, is the promotion of Jazz through the Winter series, the Frog Island Festival and theHeritage Competition. Now in its third year, the Jazz tradition is beginning to make a profit and, in addition to drawing a whole new clientele to the block, it helps finance less profitable projects which "enhance and preserve the unique character of (Depot Town)'s business climate" (from the constitution). DTA's monthly publication, THE DEPOT TOWN RAG, is in its seventh year of production and is the official house organ for the Association. The DTA offers a variety of membership programs, some of which include the option of group health and life insurance programs not possible for individuals. DTA meets at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of the month in the Association's 100 year old caboose near the Farmers' market. Rex Richie, of MILLER'S ICE CREAM PARLOR, is president.

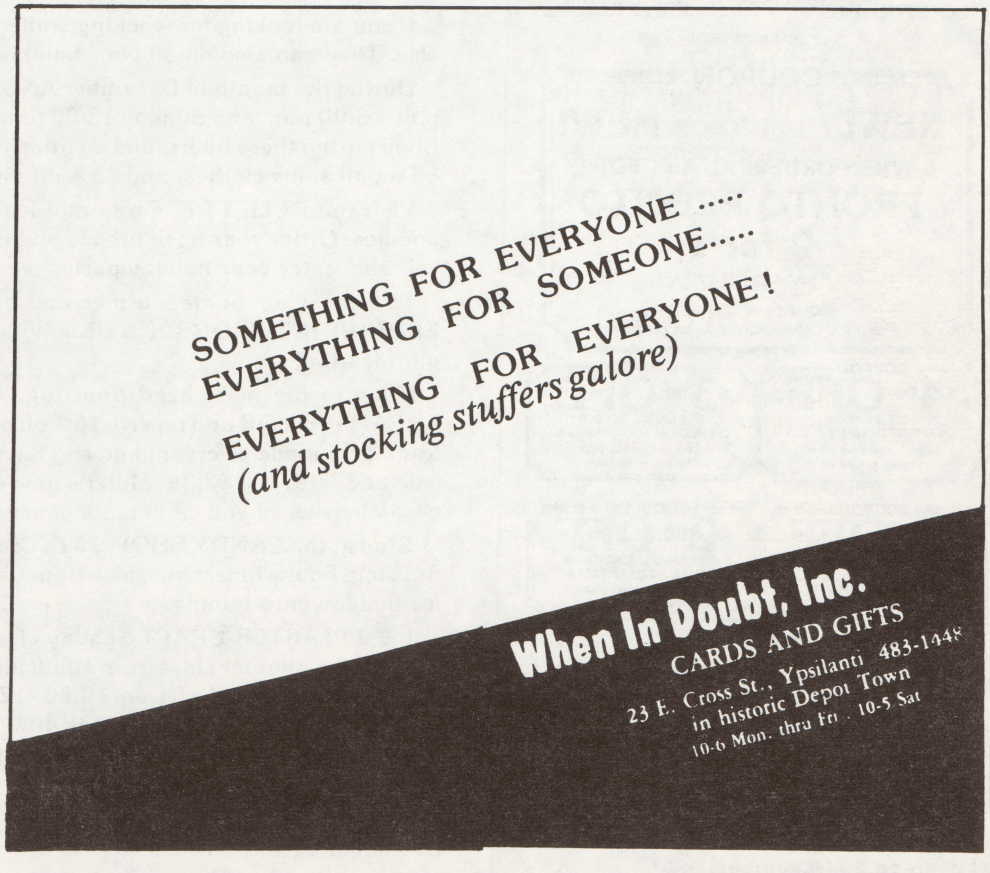
The MERCHANTS' COMMITTEE formed about two years ago as a portion of the Association which would better meet the needs of the retail businesses on the block. They have sponsored an advertising seminar and several business-boosting events such as Boomer Days and the Victorian Holidays. The Merchants' ads are the sole support of THE RAG and they have placed several group advertisments in the daily papers. Rex Richie recently resigned as their chair to assume his DTA presidency and has not yet been replaced. They meet on the second Thursday at 7:30 pm in the Caboose.

The HISTORIC DEPOT TOWN FOUNDATION, like the Merchants' Committee, was formed to better serve the needs of a more specialized constituency: The property owners. This group takes the responsibility for such long-range planning as was detailed in the 1976 Depot Town Study, (a ten year plan which was accomplished in six!) They employ a UM intern-planner and are currently proposing the creation of a Second Downtown Development Authority in the City. They recently made a proposal to the City to take over the management of the Freight House, but have not had much success there. Marybelle Suczek, of the FOLLETT HOUSE ASSOCIATES, is the chair. They meet on the fourth Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in the Caboose.

Both the MERCHANTS' COMMITTEE and the FOUNDATION make reports at the monthly DTA meeting. All three groups are open to whomever is interested in the goals and projects of the group. This commercial district may be only one block of Cross and River Streets, but so far, it takes all three groups to handle the promotions and programs involved to keep us viable. Anyone new to the block might take our ambiance for granted, but after attending these groups, they'll find that a great deal of hard work, planning and cooperation are vital to the life of our little district. Join the fun, if you haven't already, and take both credit and reponsibility for Depot Town's success.

No Vinyl Mile

Antiquers walking around the block from Depot Town will traverse two of the most elegant blocks of 19th Century domestic architecture to be found on N. River and N. Huron Streets. Now, Michigan Avenue also boasts a collector's row: In addition to MATERIALS UNLIMITED , stop in at Christine Blinn's elegant, new shop THE DOLL COLLECTOR. As the Heritage Foundation's newsletter pointed out, "Most of us who have been on Home Tours in the past recall our visit to the Blinn's delightfully restored house on the East Side. Now Chris has done it for downtown and though the space is small, it's a giant step in moving that troubled part of Ypsilanti towards a new vitality" We concur, Good job, Christine.


SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE .....
EVERYTHING FOR SOMEONE.....
EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE!
(and stocking stuffers galore)
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23 E. Cross St., Ypsilanti 483-1448
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WHEN ORDERING, ASK FOR:
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2 for 1
ANY SIZE PIZZA
Round or Square
Pick-up or Delivery/One coupon per order

COUPON
$4.00 OFF
ANY X-LARGE OR LARGE SQUARE PIZZA
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Pick-up or Delivery

COUPON
$3.00 OFF
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One coupon per pizza
Pick-up or Delivery

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ANY SMALL ROUND OR SMALL SQUARE PIZZA
One coupon per pizza
Pick-up or Delivery

SUBS
Ham & Cheese - Italian - Pizza - $2.50
Steak - $3.00

COUPON
PIZZA
ALL YOU CAN EAT!
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VALID UNTIL

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RAGTIME

The RAG proudly welcomes the CANDY SHOP to our neighborhood. Recently the RAG staff had the opportunity to tour the red and white striped shop located at 15 East cross Street next to, and adjoining , ROSEMARY'S CORNER.

The CANDY SHOP offers a variety of imported European and American candies including sweets from England, Holland, Germany, Swiss Tobler, Italian Licorice and French Bon Bons. *CE LA VIE !!*

The manager of this unique little shop should be no mystery to regular Rag readers who saw her characterized as a "workaholic" in a past edition of RAGTIME. Kathy Lefferts is the proud owner and manager and is the twenty-year-old daughter of ROSEMARY'S CORNER, next door.

We think Kathy's sweets will tantalize even the dullest of Professor Malarkey's tast buds.

Kathy is also a part time student attending Eastern Michigan University who saw managing such an enterprise as an educational challenge as well as a social experiment. Now her dream is a reality-with a clientele ranging from enthusiastic kindergarteners to senior citizens, all with one thing in common: a sweet tooth.

"Say, Kathy, how much for a dozen chocolate turtles?" Indulge yourself at Depot Town's newest addition: the CANDY SHOP.

RAG BAG - DECEMBER

Christmas Season is upon us! What a better place to shop than Historic Depot Town. Not only do we have bargains, sales and savings to entice you, we also have the quaintest shops and the most friendly salespeople to help you make your selections. We have gone all out to decorate our shops in theold fashioned Christmas Tradition. Come down and see us, it's sure to get you in the Christman Spirit!

DEPOT TOWN SHOP OPEN FRIDAYS 'TIL 8 P.M. UNTIL CHRISTMAS

A new shipment of needle point kits have arrived at ROSEMARY'S CORNER and is 25% off through Christmas. Also there are over 500 Christmas ornaments to choose from to add that finishing touch to your tree.

If you are looking for stocking stuffers WHEN IN DOUBT has more than any where else. They can also do all your holiday imprinting.

During the month of December AND EVERYTHING NICE will be open Friday 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., in addition to their regular hours. Shop during these hours, and mention you saw this in the Rag and you will receive 50% off on all sales clothes, and 15% off on clothing not already reduced.

Visit the DELI, 17 E. Cross and feast your eyes on delectable displays of holiday goodies. Order your fresh breads and fruit stollens for the seasons entertaining. They will also cater your holiday party.

To keep your home warmer and cozier during the holidays take advantage of ESQUIRE INTERIORS 20% off on Window Quilts throughout December. What a great gift idea too!

Bring in the mast head from the December issueof the RAG to MILLER'S ICE CREAM PARLOR and receive 15% off on prepackaged ½ Gallons of ice cream. Choose from farm made or cream and egg flavors. Hand packed quarts of peppermint are on sale at $2.19, reg $2.39. Miller's now carries a line of Smuckers toppings, nuts, and even cherries so you can create your own sundaes at home!

Stop at the CANDY SHOP, 15 E. Cross, and fill out an entry blank for a "Chocolate" drawing. Four winners may pick from Cadbury, Bauer, or Lindt Chocolates. Just in time for holiday entertaining.

J & J PLASTER CRAFT Sunday classes for children have been so successful they have added another class from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. $2.00 includes everything you need. If you can't make it from 10:00 - 12:00 they still have their original class from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. All whiteware is 40% off starting Dec. 26th.

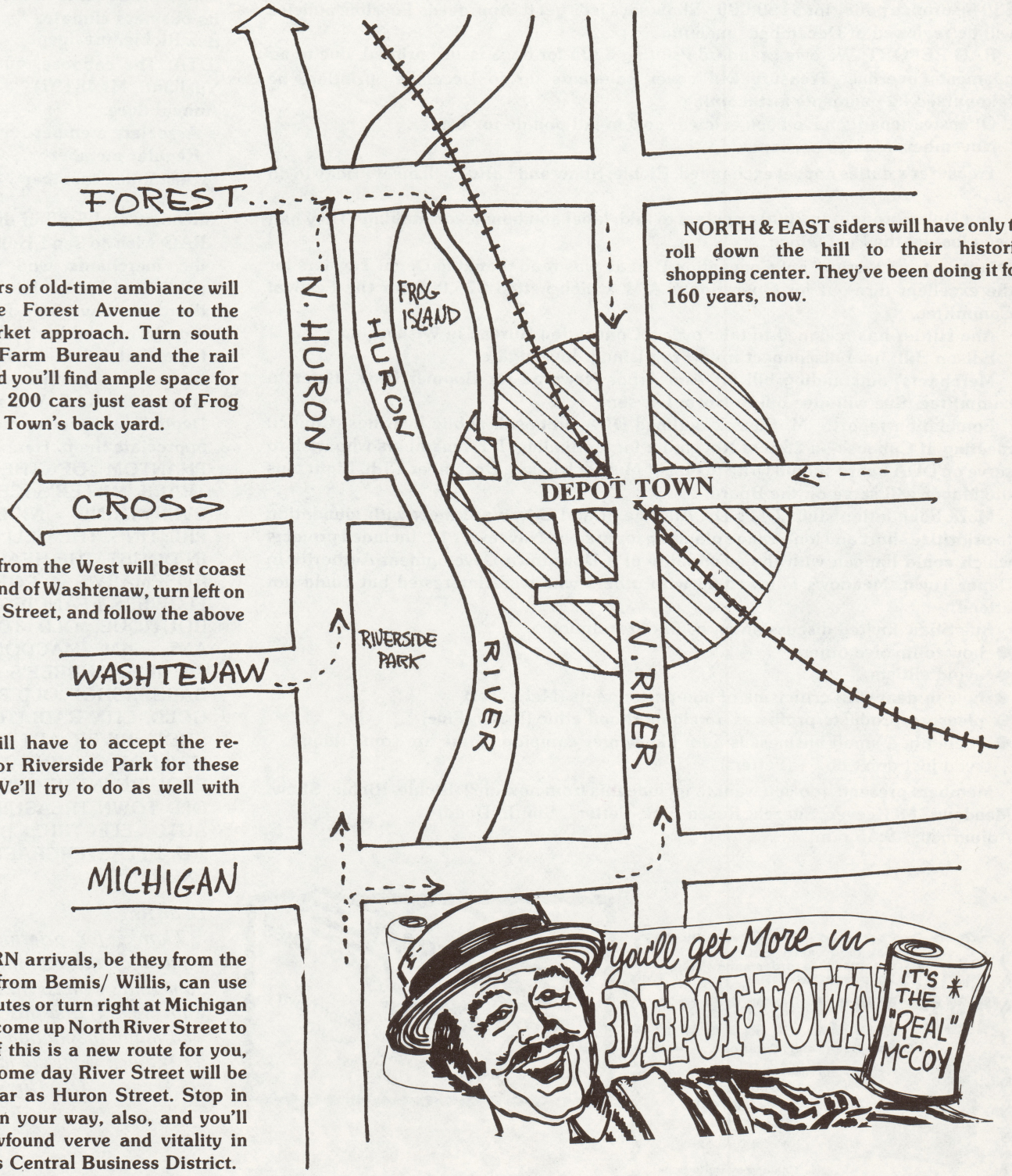
At RIVER ART WORKS you will get 15% off all framing with coupon from Victorian Christmas flyer.

Don't forget kids Shopping Day, in Depot Town Shops 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. December 11th.

BRIDGE OUT - New Route to the East.

The City of Ypsilanti and their engineering firm, McDonnel/Proudfoot, are seeking contracts with construction companies for the replacement of the Cross Street Bridge over the Huron River and expect the seventy year old bridge to be demolished in January of 1984. Contracts state completion within six months. If they should go over (as in the LeForge Bridge time limit last year), we'll still see the New Cross Street Bridge open well before the 1984 Heritage Festival. (Knock on concrete).

Meanwhile, back in little, old Depot Town, folks are wondering how others will find their way down here. Until now, most people from the West have found us by accident, since most of Cross Street is a wrong-way one-way street. Although the City sees no great need for additional signage, the contractors will at least erect detour signs to keep people from driving into the River, Beyond that, it seems, it's up to us.



EMU seekers of old-time ambiance will best use the Forest Avenue to the Farmers' Market approach. Turn south between the Farm Bureau and the rail road track and you'll find ample space for parking up to 200 cars just east of Frog Island, Depot Town's back yard.

NORTH & EAST siders will have only to roll down the hill to their historic shopping center. They've been doing it for 160 years, now.

Travellers from the West will best coast down to the end of Washtenaw, turn left on North Huron Street, and follow the above EMU route.

Downtown will have to accept the responsibility for Riverside Park for these six months. We'll try to do as well with Frog Island.

SOUTHERN arrivals, be they from the Freeway or from Bemis/ Willis, can use the above routes or turn right at Michigan Avenue and come up North River Street to the tracks. If this is a new route for you, notice that some day River Street will be as spectacular as Huron Street. Stop in Downtown on your way, also, and you'll notice a newfound verve and vitality in in Ypsilanti's Central Business District.

DTA 17 November 1983

Merchants reported plans for Victorian Christmas including wagon rides, Santa's arrival, window contest, weekly events to follow.

JAZZ Committee meeting, Tuesday, November 22, 8 pm, Caboose. 100 season tickets sold to date. Post office lost 2000 mailings, Dawn Fullerton will handle tickets/door committee. Liquor license now includes mixed drinks, stage will be at north end, City is installing new elecrical or will give permission to continue with existing service. Frog Island line will stay with new insulators in trees. Up to $300 was approved for insulators. Jazz bills will be paid through DTA treasurer.

How to deal with emergency decisions and $? Consensus of Board in person or by phone. M. Suczek will help revise existing by-laws and report later.

R. Richie reported on officer liability. Atty says we're covered by aricles of incorporation. S. Shaw challenged this from personal experience. Rex pointed out a $30 insurance policy for $150,000. Shaw says let's get it. Approved. Possible policies will be reviewed at December's meeting.

RAG REPORT: We owe Standard Printing $405 for back issues printed, due to ad payments overdue. Treasury will cover payments up to December printing, be reimbursed by payments forthcoming.

Offensive tenants have been evicted, now in jail and de-tox center.

November minutes accepted.

Treasurer's duties not yet exchanged, Richie, Shaw and LaRue will meet Friday to do so.

Jim Dulzo brought in 2000 circulars to fold, label and bundle for mailing. They had been lost by the Post Office.

Letter from Vistiors anf Convention Bureau was read thanking Depot Towners for the excellent turn-out for Operation S.A.M. which netted $25,000 for the Festival Committee.

Ann Hittler has resigned to take over a Convention Bureau in Wisconsin.

Edison Bill: final disconnect from Frog Island. Investigate.

Merchants' outstanding bill for Ann Arbor News ad for Boomer Days. Refer to committee. Sue will give bill to Norm Lawson.

Foundation report: M. Suczek outlined DDA proposal, public hearings, Council meeting at Caboose on 28th of November for factfinding. DTA members who wish to serve on DDA board should write to Mayor Murdock before December 15th. Eight plus the Mayor will serve on the Board.

More Foundation stuff: UM's Dr. Alan Feldt and Eric Ward meet with foundation to prioritize short and long-range planning for area on November 12. Included projects which could happen with the eventuality of a Downtown Development Authority in Depot Town. Meadows followed-up with others who were interested but could not attend.

Sue Shaw invited discussion on conflict resolution:

- how to involve others
- avoid elitism
- how to deal with criticisms of non-participants (McKeever)
- pleasure/products/profits as a neighborhood ethic (Rosen-Fine)
- "being in a small business is a lot like winter camping: there are some things you just don't do." (Fetters)

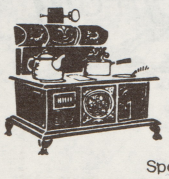
Members present: (do you want to include this from now on?)' Richie, Richie, Shaw, Meadows, McKeever, Suczek, Rosen-Fine, Fetters, Smith, Dodd)

Adjourned: 9:45 p.m.

Eat in or carry out
Delicious fresh made to order sandwiches
Soup and Salad Bar

THE DELI SHOPPE

Delicatessen and Catering



In Historic Depot Town
17 East Cross St
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197
483-3574

Catering by Bette Beck
Specializing in Wedding Receptions

SIDETRACK

GOOD FOOD GOOD DRINKS GOOD TIMES

Located in historic Depot Town
56 E. CROSS • YPSILANTI
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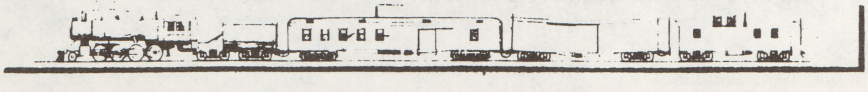

Depot Town Rag

A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc., a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.

Rex Richie, president

(DTA: The caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48197)

Annual dues:

Associate member $10
Regular member $25
Sustaining member $100

Readers and Staff of the DEPOT TOWN RAG wish to send Holiday Greetings to the merchants who have made this publication possible. Their tiny advertisements have paid for another twelve months of neighborly news and views. We hope, that with their support, we can keep this up for another seven years. They support the RAG. You support them. Tell Depot Town's active merchants that you appreciate them. Here they are:

PHANTOM OF THE ATTIC, SIDETRACK, MILLER'S ICE CREAM, ...AND EVERYTHING NICE, STANDARD PRINTING, THE DELI SHOPPE, WHEN IN DOUBT, THE HEALTH EMPORIUM, ROSEMARY'S CORNER, HON'S FLOWERS & FANCIES, JACQUELINE'S BOUTIQUE, OLD TOWN RESTAURANT, JIM MACDONALD'S APPLE ANNIE'S, AUBREE'S SALOON, IKE'S BARBERSHOP, OLD TOWN COIN AND GOLD, CITY RADIATOR, CITY BODY SHOP, RIVER ART WORKS, DEPOT MAILBOX, VINTAGE PASSION, ESQUIRE INTERIORS, CHARISMART, OLD TOWN TREASURE SHOP, TED'S AUTO ELECTRIC, PRONTO PIZZA, J & J PLASTERCRAFT SHOP, DEPOT EXCHANGE.

Dear Rag;

Thanks for printing the condensed version of the monthly DTA minutes. Sometimes we miss the meeting (or forget what we did) and this helps. Who cares who made the motion or who seconded it? We just want the facts.

Old City Council Member

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HISTORIC EAST SIDE ASSICIATION ... on the celebration of their tenth year as an active neighborhood organization. That residential district (just up the hill from this commercial district) also saw the effect of a neighborhood decline since World War II when Ypsilanti gave over it's beautiful East Side to the war effort and turned its back on Willow Run, the bomber plant and the rest of us hillbillies. HESA set about to reverse that trend with great success. If we ever get a bank back on this side of the River, they will, no doubt, hustle T-Shirts which proclaim, "I'm proud to be from Ypsilanti's East Side!" We're proud to have HESA as neighbors.

Watch for HESA's raffle next month to raise funds for a historic marker for Prospect Park.

Ted's
AUTO ELECTRIC
ALTERNATOR SERVICE - TROUBLE SHOOTING
307 N. River St. Ypsilanti, Michigan
Phone 483-1238

Standard Printing - 1909-1939-1983

Back in 1939, when Standard Printing moved into the block, they published a little brochure to commemorate the event entitled, "Thirty Years of Continuous Service to the Ypsilanti Public." The cover photo should be of great interest to todays historic preservationists. Note that only the second floor window caps (metal) and the square quoins with capitals remain today. The elegant first and second floor cornices are gone, as are the cast iron store facades and double entry doors. Even the basement windows fronted on the street with graceful arches and keystones. The old booklet includes photos of desks and office furniture some of which are still in use -- although most of the presses and the panel truck are gone.

We can only suggest one change in the copy from that printing, since their attention to detail and quality remain unchanged --change the number of years in the title and you'll notice that 1984 will be their 75th year.

We are pleased to announce that Bonni-Rosen-Fine of ...AND EVERYTHING NICE is the proud owner of a beautiful new pick-up truck. Please borrow hers and leave ours alone for a while.

Tom Dodd & Steve Gross

Depot Mailbox
POSTAL BOX RENTALS
MESSAGE SERVICES
15 E. CROSS
YPSILANTI.
MICHIGAN
485-499

RIVER ARTWORKS
CUSTOM FRAMING
DESIGNER MATS
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• PROFESSIONALS WITH ALL GRAPHICS NEEDLECRAFT
FRAMING OF OBJECTS
ARCHIVAL FRAMING
• GALLERY OF ORIGINAL ART
• RENTAL DARKROOM
• RENTAL WORKROOM
48 E. CROSS
DEPOT TOWN

Old Town
RESTAURANT
Home Cooked
Breakfast • Lunch
& Dinner
HISTORIC DEPOT DOWN

SALOON
Aubree's
HISTORIC DEPOT TOWN
Burgers-Booze-Billards

Rosemary's Corner
NEEDLE ARTS and
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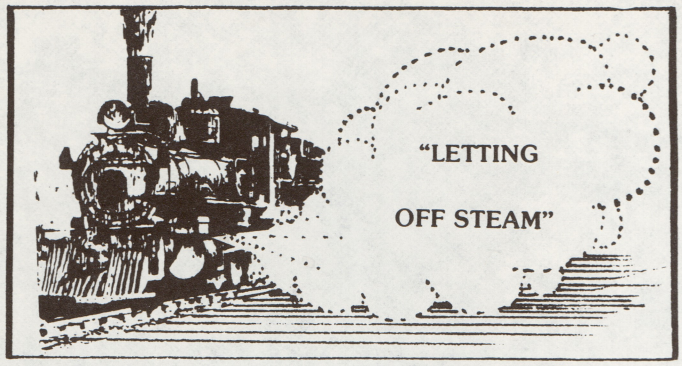
GAMBLING? This place is a Hot-Bed (of apathy)

Two months ago the RAG asked for responses to the Central Business District's offer to promote a gambling event in Depot Town. They would even bring in the committee to operate the tables, they said, and they're good at it. They held the Riverboat Gambling Tent at Heritage Fest and raked in the dough. At Apple Harvest they sponsored the Cidermill Casino with much the same result: oodles of moolah. DTA has not had such a glorious record of monetary profits. We have a great history of classic events which either break even or lose a little money. Can downtown's CBC help Depot Town?

Fifty percent of our respondents said YES. Fifty percent said NO. Actually, we are disappointed to announce that only two people responded and although that makes computation simpler, the following results are somewhat skewed. Thanks, anyhow, to Debbie Smith and Steve Gross who responded diametrically. We print their comment further down. Meanwhile, shall we just multiply their responses times 1000, or shall we air their points of view to spur others on to a moment of decision?



Steve Gross-NO!!

"Gambling is incredibly ugly and we don't need it. Our block enjoys things aesthetic and this kind of show would do irreparable harm. People don't behave the same when they gamble. They get greedy. They're not polite. They don't say please or thank you when they gamble. They say things like, "Hey, you. I won. Pay up. Gimmie my money." They blow smoke in the faces of the volunteers. Nope. It's just not genteel enough. We don't need the money that much."

Debbie Smith - YES!

"'Gambling is fun...and profitable. Depot Town's style would make it even more fun. Just imagine adding one of our best jazz groups for background music, artfully lighted by Fantasee Lighting, and all the locals dressing up for the occasion. We could call it Las Vegas Night and rent the Freight House. We certainly could use the money."

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